REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1-4 and 7-21 are amended to merely clarify the recited subject matter. No new issues are raised by the amendments and they were not provided earlier because Applicant only fully understood the Office Action's interpretation of the pending claims following the telephone interview so courteously granted and conducted on September 14, 2005.

Claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sakano et al. (U.S. 5,513,343; hereafter "Sakano"). Applicant traverses the rejection because Sakano et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed subject matter. Sakano fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed method of data transmission, network element or network management system or computer program product relating to transmission to a network management system, a response or alarm that include a pointer indicating a location where to find additional information, as recited in the rejected claims.

Sakano merely teaches a methodology wherein a detailed information storage program stores detailed information contained in alarms and transmitted from objects_into detailed information files. However, the Office Action has asserted that "Sakano clearly teaches not transmitting the detailed information to the network management system." Specifically, the Office Action has referred to column 5, lines 48-50 of Sakano, asserting that the agent 5A receives alarm information from object 2A.

Nevertheless, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that Sakano teaches that the agent 5A is in the network (see, network management system 1 illustrated in Fig. 1). The Office Action asserted, at page 8, that the objects 2A-2D are pointers indicating where to find additional information. However, Sakano clearly teaches that the detailed information is transmitted from the objects (2A to 2D in Fig. 1) via network 4 to the network management system 1, and that the network management system 1 comprises agents 5A to 5B as well as the detailed information storage program 51 and the detailed information file 7A. Therefore, steps S1 and S2, referred to at page 9 of the Office Action, are performed by the network management system 1. Accordingly, Sakano fails to disclose, teach or suggest receiving alarm inform from objects and saving detailed information into a detailed information file outside of a network management system or transmitting a pointer to that detailed information to the network management system.

As understood from a thorough reading of Applicant's specification, the claimed invention's utility stems in part from the ability to reduce the amount of information
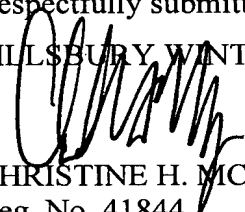
7

transferred in a network by providing additional information on demand by the operator, thanks to at least one pointer included in a response provided and transmitted to the network management system. Sakano provides no such functionality. Hence, the prior art rejection based on Sakano is traversed, and claims 1-23 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, claims 1-23 are believed to be in form for allowance, and a notice indicating such is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

CHRISTINE H. MCCARTHY
Reg. No. 41844
Tel. No. 703 905.2143
Fax No. 703 905.2500

Date: October 6, 2005
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000